

Appln. No. 09/752,037  
Amendment dated December 22, 2004  
Reply to Office Action mailed September 22, 2004

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims (deleted text being struck through and added text being underlined):

- 1           1. (Original) A method of handling a call from a caller to a  
2 communication device, the method comprising:  
3           receiving the call;  
4           determining if the communication device is in a privacy mode; and  
5           if the communication device is in the privacy mode, completing the  
6           call if a privacy mode code is entered by the caller.
- 1           2. (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising if the  
2 communication device is in the privacy mode, routing the call to a message  
3 system if no privacy mode code is entered by the caller.
- 1           3. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the privacy mode code  
2 is selected by a user of the communication device.
- 1           4. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the communication  
2 device is one of: a cellular telephone and a personal digital assistant.
- 1           5. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the method is  
2 performed by one of: a base station and a switch.
- 1           6. (Original) The method of claim 5, further comprising the step of  
2 receiving a request from the communication device to place the  
3 communication device in the privacy mode.

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1           7. (Original) The method of claim 6, wherein the request further  
2 comprises:

3           a privacy mode message selected by a user of the communication  
4           device and adapted to be provided to the caller prior to completing  
5           the call; and  
6           the privacy mode code selected by the user of the communication  
7           device.

1           8. (Original) The method of claim 6, further comprising the step of  
2 receiving a request from the communication device to place the  
3 communication device out of the privacy mode.

1           9. (Original) A method of handling a call from a caller to a  
2 communication device, the method comprising:  
3           receiving the call;  
4           determining if the communication device is in a privacy mode; and  
5           if the communication device is in the privacy mode, providing a  
6           privacy mode message including a selected privacy override code to  
7           the caller.

1           10. (Original) The method of claim 9, further comprising if the  
2 communication device is in the privacy mode, completing the call if the  
3 selected privacy override code is entered by the caller.

1           11. (Original) The method of claim 9, further comprising if the  
2 communication device is in the privacy mode, routing the call to a message  
3 system if no selected privacy override code is entered by the caller.

1           12. (Original) The method of claim 9, wherein the privacy mode  
2 message is selected from a group of prerecorded messages.

1           13. (Original) The method of claim 9, wherein the privacy mode

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2 message is recorded by a user of the communication device.

1 14. (Original) The method of claim 9, wherein the privacy override  
2 code is selected by a user of the communication device.

1 15. (Original) The method of claim 9, wherein the communication  
2 device is a cellular telephone or a personal digital assistant.

1 16. (Original) The method of claim 9, wherein the method is  
2 performed by a base station or a switch.

1 17. (Original) The method of claim 16, further comprising the step of  
2 receiving a request from the communication device to place the  
3 communication device in the privacy mode.

1 18. (Original) The method of claim 17, wherein the request further  
2 comprises:  
3 the privacy mode message selected by a user of the communication  
4 device and adapted to be provided to the caller upon receiving the call; and  
5 the privacy override code selected by the user of the communication  
6 device.

1 19. (Original) The method of claim 17, further comprising the step of  
2 receiving a request from the communication device to place the  
3 communication device out of the privacy mode.

1 20. (Original) A computer readable medium having instructions for  
2 causing a computer to perform a method of handling a call from a caller to a  
3 communication device, the method comprising:  
4 receiving the call;  
5 determining if the communication device is in a privacy mode; and  
6 if the communication device is in the privacy mode, completing the  
7 call if a predetermined code is entered by the caller.

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1        21. (Original) The computer readable medium of claim 20, further  
2 comprising if the communication device is in the privacy mode, routing the  
3 call to a message system if no predetermined code is entered by the caller.

1        22. (Original) A computer readable medium having instructions for  
2 causing a computer to perform a method of handling a call from a caller to a  
3 communication device, the method comprising:  
4        receiving the call;  
5        determining if the communication device is in a privacy mode; and  
6        if the communication device is in the privacy mode, providing a  
7        privacy mode message including a selected privacy override code to  
8        the caller.

1        23. (Original) The computer readable medium of claim 22, further  
2 comprising if the communication device is in the privacy mode, completing  
3 the call if the privacy override code is entered by the caller.

1        24. (Original) The computer readable medium of claim 22, further  
2 comprising if the communication device is in the privacy mode, routing the  
3 call to a message system if no privacy override code is entered by the  
4 caller.

1        25. (Original) A system for handling a call from a caller to a user of  
2 a communication device, the system comprising:  
3        a data entry device capable of receiving input to cause the  
4        communication device to enter a privacy mode;  
5        a memory capable of storing a privacy mode message, the privacy  
6        mode message adapted to be provided to the caller prior to  
7        completing the call to the user; and  
8        a receiver capable of completing the call to the user if a privacy mode  
9        code is entered by the caller.

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1           26. (Original) The system of claim 25, further wherein the receiver is  
2 capable of routing the call to a message system if no privacy mode code is  
3 entered by the caller.

1           27. (Original) The system of claim 25, wherein the data entry device  
2 is a telephone keypad.

1           28. (Original) The system of claim 25, wherein the privacy mode  
2 code comprises at least one keystroke from the data entry device.

1           29. (Original) The system of claim 25, wherein the privacy mode  
2 code is selected by the user of the communication device.

1           30. (Original) The system of claim 25, wherein the communication  
2 device is one of: a cellular telephone and a personal digital assistant.

1           31. (Original) A system for handling a call from a caller to a user of  
2 a communication device, the system comprising:  
3           a data entry device capable of receiving input to cause the  
4           communication device to enter a privacy mode; and  
5           a memory capable of providing a privacy mode message including a  
6           selected privacy override code to the caller prior to completing the  
7           call to the user.

1           32. (Original) The system of claim 31, further comprising a receiver  
2 capable of completing the call to the user if the selected privacy override  
3 code is entered by the caller.

1           33. (Original) The system of claim 32, further wherein the receiver is  
2 capable of routing the call to a message system if no selected privacy  
3 override code is entered by the caller.

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1        34. (Original) The system of claim 31, wherein the selected privacy  
2        override code is provided by the user of the communication device.

1        35. (Original) A system for handling a call from a caller to a user of  
2        a communication device, the system comprising:  
3        a data entry device capable of receiving input to cause the  
4        communication device to enter a privacy mode; and  
5        a receiver capable of receiving the call to the communication device  
6        and completing the call to the user only if an interrupt is received  
7        from the caller.

1        36. (Original) The system of claim 35, wherein the interrupt is a  
2        privacy mode code entered by the caller.

1        37. (Original) A system for handling a call from a caller to a user of  
2        a communication device, the system comprising:  
3        a receiver capable of receiving the call and a privacy mode code  
4        entered by the caller;  
5        a memory capable of storing a status indicating if the communication  
6        device is in a privacy mode; and  
7        a transmitter capable of completing the call to the user if the  
8        communication device is in the privacy mode and the privacy mode  
9        code is entered by the caller.

1        38. (Original) The system of claim 37, wherein the memory is further  
2        capable of storing a message from the caller if the communication device is  
3        in the privacy mode and no privacy mode code is entered by the caller.

1        39. (Original) The system of claim 37, wherein the memory is further  
2        capable of storing a privacy mode message adapted to be provided to the  
3        caller prior to completing the call to the user.

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1           40. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 37, wherein the  
2 receiver is further capable of receiving a request from the communication  
3 device to place the communication device in the privacy mode.

1           41. (Original) The system of claim 40, wherein the request further  
2 comprises:  
3           a privacy mode message selected by a user of the communication  
4           device and adapted to be provided to the caller prior to completing  
5           the call to the user; and  
6           the privacy mode code selected by the user of the communication  
7           device.

1           42. (Original) The method of claim 40, wherein the receiver is  
2 further capable of receiving a request from the communication device to  
3 place the communication device out of the privacy mode.

1           43. (Original) The system of claim 37, wherein the communication  
2 device is one of: a cellular telephone and a personal digital assistant.

1           44. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1 additionally  
2 comprising, if the communication device is in the privacy mode, passing the  
3 call to a voice messaging system if the privacy mode code is not entered by  
4 the caller, the voice messaging system being capable of recording a message  
5 spoken by the caller making the call.  
6

1           45. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1 additionally  
2 comprising, if the communication device is in the privacy mode, blocking  
3 completion of the call until the privacy mode code is entered.

1           46. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1 additionally  
2 comprising, if the communication device is in the privacy mode, preventing  
3 the communication device from producing an incoming call signal if the

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4 privacy mode code is not entered by the caller.

1 47. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1 additionally  
2 comprising, if the communication device is in the privacy mode, preventing  
3 the communication device from producing an incoming call signal for all  
4 calls for which the caller does not enter the privacy mode code.

1 48. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1 additionally  
2 comprising, if the communication device is in the privacy mode, requiring  
3 entry of the privacy mode code by the caller before the communication  
4 device produces an incoming call signal.

1 49. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1 additionally  
2 comprising establishing for the communications device a normal mode of  
3 operation and the privacy mode of operation.

1 50. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 49 wherein the  
2 normal mode of operation is characterized by producing an incoming call  
3 signal upon receipt of the call, and the privacy mode is characterized by  
4 producing the incoming call signal only if the caller has entered the privacy  
5 mode code.

1 51. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, further  
2 comprising, if the communication device is in the privacy mode, announcing  
3 the privacy mode code to the caller.

1 52. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 9, wherein the step  
2 of providing a privacy mode message including a selected privacy override  
3 code to the caller further comprises announcing the privacy code to the  
4 caller.



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1           53. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, further  
2 comprising the step of receiving a spoken command from a user of the  
3 communication device to place the communication device in the  
4 privacy mode.

1           54. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1 additionally  
2 comprising, if the communication device is in the privacy mode, preventing  
3 the communication device from producing an incoming call signal if the  
4 privacy mode code is not entered by the caller while providing information  
5 regarding the incoming call through a display on the communication device.